

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3559

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS ANKARA 3835

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, US

SUBJECT: APAG - 1976 DISCUSSION PAPER

REF: (A) STATE 108571, (B) STATE 108765

1. EMBASSY OFFICER DELIVERED U.S. DISCUSSION PAPER ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS MAY 13 TO AMBASSADOR HAMIT BATU, MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL OF RESEARCH AND POLICY PLANNING. BATU WILL PROBABLY BE THE ONLY TURKISH REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING THE APAG MEETING.

2. BATU HAS ALSO PREPARED A DISCUSSION PAPER WHICH WILL BE UNCLASSIFIED

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DISTRIBUTED BY THE TURKISH PERMREP TO NATO NEXT WEEK.

EMBASSY IS NOT AWARE CONTENT OF BATU'S PAPER, BUT IT MAY REFLECT AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY," WRITTEN BY BATU AND PUBLISHED THIS MONTH IN A TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY QUARTERLY. THE THEME OF BATU'S ARTICLE IS THAT THE RECENT DRIVE BY TURKEY TO INCREASE HER TIES WITH HER ISLAMIC AND COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS IS NOT A NEW POLICY, BUT RATHER A RETURN TO THE FOREIGN POLICY OF ATATURK. BATU POINTS OUT THAT ATATURK'S PRIMARY AIMS IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE REPUBLIC WERE TO STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP WITH ITS IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS. HE ARGUES THAT THE TURKISH CONCENTRATION OF ITS RELATIONS ON THE WEST SINCE WORLD WAR II WAS AN ABERRATION CAUSED BY COLD WAR AND THAT NOW THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN EASING OF TENSION, TURKEY MUST ONCE AGAIN ASSUME ITS TRADITIONAL ROLE OF A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE EAST AND WEST. BATU POINTS OUT, HOWEVER, THAT EXPANSION OF TURKISH RELATIONS WITH HER COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS, IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE SUCCESS OF THE POLICIES PURSUED BY THE WEST DURING THE LAST 30 YEARS AND THAT TURKEY CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO CHANGE HER BASIC IDENTIFICATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE WEST.

3. DURING THE CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, BATU ALSO SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS DURING THE APAG MEETING THE POSSIBILITY OF CLOSER COOPERATION AND EXCHANGES BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENTS OF THE VARIOUS FOREIGN MINISTRIES OF NATO COUNTRIES.
MACOMBER

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